



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Governor's Bill No. 5050

LCO No. 525



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:

REP. SHARKEY, 88th Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

***AN ACT MODERNIZING THE SYMBOL OF ACCESS FOR PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) No later than January 1,
2 2017, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall promulgate a
3 policy and propose regulations designating the symbol of access to be
4 used on signage indicating access for persons with disabilities. Such
5 symbol shall depict a logo with a dynamic character leaning forward
6 with a sense of movement, be readily identifiable and be simply
7 designed with no secondary meaning. Such symbol shall provide for
8 the equivalent facilitation and accessibility as the previously used
9 international symbol of access.

10 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Beginning January 1, 2017, any
11 reference to the international symbol of accessibility in the State
12 Building Code shall be deemed to mean the symbol of access, as

13 defined in subsection (a) of section 14-253a, as amended by this act.
14 The symbol of access shall be used for all buildings and structures
15 constructed, substantially renovated or expanded on or after January 1,
16 2017.

17 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 14-253a of the 2016 supplement to
18 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
19 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

20 (a) For the purposes of this section:

21 (1) "Special license plate" means a license plate displaying the
22 [international] symbol of access in a size identical to that of the letters
23 or numerals on the plate and in a color that contrasts with the
24 background color of the plate;

25 (2) "Removable windshield placard" means a two-sided, hanger-
26 style placard which bears on both of its sides: (A) The [international]
27 symbol of access in a height of three inches or more centered on such
28 placard and colored white on a blue background; (B) a unique
29 identification number; (C) a date of expiration; and (D) a statement
30 indicating that the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles issued
31 such placard;

32 (3) "Temporary removable windshield placard" means a placard
33 that is the same as a removable windshield placard except that the
34 [international] symbol of access appears on a red background; [and]

35 (4) "Person with disabilities" means a person with disabilities which
36 limit or impair the ability to walk, as defined in 23 CFR Section 1235.2;
37 and

38 (5) "Symbol of access" means the symbol designated by the
39 Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 1 of this
40 act used to indicate access for persons with disabilities.

41 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 14-253a of the 2016 supplement to

42 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
43 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

44 (c) Any person who meets the requirements to obtain a removable
45 windshield placard pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and who
46 has a motorcycle registered in such person's name shall be issued,
47 upon approval of the application, number plates in accordance with
48 the provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-21b, which shall bear
49 letters or numerals or any combination thereof followed by the
50 [international access] symbol of access. The registration of any
51 motorcycle for which a special license plate is issued shall expire and
52 be renewed as provided in section 14-22 and be subject to the fee
53 provisions of section 14-49. No person shall be issued such number
54 plates for the registration of more than two motorcycles. Any person
55 eligible to obtain a special license plate pursuant to this section who
56 transfers the expired registration of a motorcycle owned by such
57 person and replaces such number plate with a special license plate
58 shall be exempt from payment of any fee for such transfer or
59 replacement. A person who obtains a special plate or plates under this
60 subsection may also obtain a removable windshield placard in
61 accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

62 Sec. 5. Subsection (h) of section 14-253a of the 2016 supplement to
63 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
64 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

65 (h) Parking spaces designated for persons who are blind and
66 persons with disabilities on or after October 1, 1979, and prior to
67 October 1, 2004, shall be as near as possible to a building entrance or
68 walkway and shall be fifteen feet wide including three feet of cross
69 hatch, or parallel to a sidewalk on a public highway. On and after
70 October 1, 2004, parking spaces for passenger motor vehicles
71 designated for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities
72 shall be as near as possible to a building entrance or walkway and
73 shall be fifteen feet wide including five feet of cross hatch. On and after

74 October 1, 2004, parking spaces for passenger vans designated for
 75 persons who are blind and persons with disabilities shall be as near as
 76 possible to a building entrance or walkway and shall be sixteen feet
 77 wide including eight feet of cross hatch. Such spaces shall be
 78 designated by above grade signs with white lettering against a blue
 79 background and shall bear the words "handicapped parking permit
 80 required" and "violators will be fined". Such sign shall also bear the
 81 international symbol of access. [When] On and after January 1, 2017,
 82 whenever such a sign is replaced, repaired or erected it shall bear the
 83 words "reserved parking permit required" and "violators will be
 84 fined", bear the symbol of access and indicate the minimum fine for a
 85 violation of subsection (f) of this section. Such indicator may be in the
 86 form of a notice affixed to such a sign.

87 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 14-325b of the 2016 supplement to
 88 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 89 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

90 (a) Each retail dealer as defined in section 14-318 that offers self-
 91 service and full-service facilities for the sale of gasoline or motor fuel
 92 shall provide, at a self-service pump, upon request, refueling service to
 93 a handicapped driver of a vehicle that bears a special [international
 94 symbol of access] license plate or a removable windshield placard
 95 issued pursuant to section 14-253a, as amended by this act, at a price
 96 no greater than that which such dealer would charge the public to
 97 purchase gasoline or motor fuel without any refueling service.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-253a(a)
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-253a(c)
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-253a(h)
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-325b(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]